



JOINT INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE AUTHORITY

SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN

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January 9, 2006

NEWS RELEASE

The International Bridge Administration today announced that one-way traffic crossings of the International Bridge at Sault Ste. Marie totaled 139,378 for the month of December, 2005. This represents an increase of 5.04% as compared to December, 2004.

Traffic statistics for the month are as follows:

<i>Vehicle Classification</i>	<i>One-Way Crossings</i>	<i>Change from December, 2004</i>	<i>Percent of Total Crossings</i>
<i>Full-Fare Passenger Cars:</i>	56,000	-4.4%	40.2%
<i>Commuter Fare:</i>	73,310	16.1 %	52.6%
<i>Car Pulling Trailers</i>	1,133	-22.1%	0.8%
<i>Commercial Trucks:</i>	8,935	-5.8%	6.4%
<i>Totals:</i>	139,378		100%

Traffic for calendar year 2005 has totaled 1,926,660 vehicles; this represents an increase of 4.2% as compared to 2004. Since the bridge opened in 1962, over 78.9 million vehicles have crossed the structure.

Manager's Note:

Last year was a good year for bridge traffic. It was the first year since 1997 that bridge traffic increased when compared to the previous year. The decrease in annual traffic in the past eight years has been significant. In 1997 bridge traffic totaled 70% more than 2005, with 3,289,855 crossings. Bridge toll revenues in 2005 totaled \$4.4 million, a decrease of ½% from 2004. The decrease in toll revenues is primarily due to a 1.2% decrease in truck traffic in 2005. Truck traffic is less than seven percent of total traffic but it provides nearly 50% of toll revenues.

REPLY TO: PHILLIP M. BECKER, P.E., GENERAL MANAGER

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The year 2006 will be a good year for bridge customers. The new U.S. Customs and Border Protection Border Station is scheduled to be complete, and will provide for two truck lanes, three car lanes, and a bus lane.

The IBA is scheduled to go live with online video camera images of bridge traffic conditions at both ends of the bridge via the IBA website. This service will give bridge users frequent traffic images, to allow users to make informed decisions on when to cross the bridge. Also, the IBA will complete the installation of electronic customer fare displays on the toll booth islands for improved customer service.

Sincerely,

International Bridge Administration

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Phillip M. Becker".

Phillip M. Becker, P.E.
General Manager